

What is claimed is:

1. A float retainer for a dishwasher, the dishwasher including a tub, a float with a stem extending through a standpipe in the tub, the stem being adapted to engage and disengage a switch mounted in a switch bracket to control the water level in the tub, the float retainer comprising:

5 a tab on the bracket movable between open and closed position, the tab having fingers adapted to slidably retain the stem when the tab is in the closed position.

2. The float retainer of claim 1 further comprising a hinge connecting the tab to the

10 bracket.

3. The float retainer of claim 2 wherein the hinge is a living hinge.

4. The float retainer of claim 1 wherein the tab and bracket are integrally formed.

15 5. The float retainer of claim 1 wherein the tab fingers capture the stem to prevent the float stem from laterally disengaging from the switch.

6. An improved switch bracket for housing a switch to control the water level in an
20 appliance, the appliance having a float with a stem extending through a standpipe, the stem being adapted to engage and actuate the switch beneath the standpipe, the improvement comprising:

a tab on the switch bracket having fingers through which the stem extends to slidably retain
the stem in the standpipe.

25 7. The improved switch bracket of claim 6 further comprising a hinge to pivotally connect the tab to the bracket for movement of the tab between open and closed positions.

8. The improved switch bracket of claim 7 wherein the hinge is a living hinge.

9. The improved switch bracket of claim 7 wherein the tab fingers capture the stem when the tab is in the closed position.

10. The improved switch bracket of claim 6 wherein the tab is formed integrally with
5 the switch bracket.

11. The improved switch bracket of claim 6 wherein the tab snap fits onto the bracket.

12. The improved switch bracket of claim 6 wherein the bracket includes a threaded
10 neck to mount onto the appliance.

13. The improved switch bracket of claim 6 wherein the tab fingers capture the stem to preclude lateral movement of the float stem.

15 14. A method of retaining a float in a dishwasher tub for controlling the water level in the tub, comprising:

inserting a stem of the float through a stand pipe in the tub for receipt in a switch bracket beneath the tub; and

capturing the stem between fingers on a tab on the switch bracket for sliding retention of

20 the float in the stand pipe.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the tab is pivoted from a first position to a second position wherein the tab captures the stem.

25 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the tab is retained in the second position by snap fitting onto a lip on the switch bracket.

17. The method of claim 14 wherein the tab is snap fit onto the bracket.

30 18. The method of claim 14 further comprising limiting horizontal movement of the float stem with the tab fingers.